

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include an unintentionally delayed reference required under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(i). This information has already been recognized by the Office as shown by its inclusion on the official filing receipt, a copy of which is enclosed. Thus, in accordance with MPEP 201.11(III)(D), Applicant submits that no petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a) or surcharge under 37 CFR § 1.17(t) is required to correct this priority claim. However, should any fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Response.

The amendment to claim 9 was made solely to correct a typographical error. The amendment to claim 16 is fully supported by original claim 18 and by the description in the specification (e.g., page 6; etc.). The amendment to claim 18 was made for clarification in view of the amendment to its base claim. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-30 remain present and active in the application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *White* (U.S. Patent No. 3,575,069) and the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by FIG. 1 of *Shu-Sui et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 7,082,860) are respectfully traversed.

White and FIG. 1 of *Shu-Sui et al.* clearly fail to teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 1. At a minimum, neither *White* nor FIG. 1 of *Shu-Sui et al.* teaches or suggests "a one-way drive transmitting wheel" as required by independent claim 1.

If, for the sake of argument, the ratchet wheel 20 described in *White* and/or the drive gear 11 shown in FIG. 1 of *Shu-Sui et al.* were regarded as "a drive-stud element" in the sense of the claimed invention (i.e., in the sense of having a drive stud at a first end and a drive recess at a second end), there would still be no teaching or suggestion of any

"one-way drive transmitting wheel" coupled to such a "drive-stud element" nor, indeed, of any ratchet mechanism coupling the non-existent "one-way drive transmitting wheel" to the handle—a further requirement of independent claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of *White* or FIG. 1 of *Shu-Sui et al.* Accordingly, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

2. The rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, 16, 18, 19, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Blank* (U.S. Patent No. 4,054,067) and the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, 16, 18, 19, 23, and 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Huang* (U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2003/0131692 A1) are in part respectfully traversed and in part obviated by amendment.

At a minimum, neither *Blank* nor *Huang* teaches or suggests "a non-rotating centering element engaging [a] load bearing surface" of "a wheel/drive-stud element combination," as required by independent claim 1, or "a non-rotating centering element engaging at least one of the drive-stud element and the one-way drive transmitting wheel," as required by independent claim 16 as presently written.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of *Blank* or *Huang*. Accordingly, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. The rejection of dependent claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *White* in view of the knowledge available to one of ordinary skill in the art, the rejection of dependent claims 13, 17, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Blank* or *Huang* in view of the knowledge available to one of ordinary skill in the art, the rejection of dependent claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *White*, *Blank* or *Huang* in view of *Myers* (U.S. Patent No. 3,823,625), the rejection of dependent claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *White* in view of *Matsubara et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,596,913), the

rejection of dependent claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Blank* or *Huang* in view of *Matsubara et al.*, the rejection of dependent claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *White* in view of *Roberts et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,182,536) or *Chiu* (U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2003/0121371 A1), and the rejection of dependent claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Blank* or *Huang* in view of *Roberts et al.* or *Chiu* are in part respectfully traversed and in part obviated by amendment.

Each of these rejected claims depends directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 or independent claim 16. As noted in the remarks above, *White*, *Blank*, and *Huang* each fail to teach or suggest all of the elements of independent claims 1 and 16. Moreover, the deficiencies of these primary references are not remedied by *Myers*, *Matsubara et al.*, *Roberts et al.* or *Chiu*, which likewise fail to teach or suggest all of the recited elements.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of these references, individually or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

2. The rejection of claims 29 and 30 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *White*, *Blank* or *Huang* in view of *Wright* (U.S. Patent No. 3,824,881) is respectfully traversed.

White, *Blank*, *Huang*, and *Wright*, individually or in combination, clearly fail to teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 29. By way of example, independent claim 29 recites operation of first and second ratchet wrenches. However, at a minimum, none of *White*, *Blank*, *Huang* or *Wright* teaches or suggests "(e) rotating [a] first ratchet wrench to rotate [a] tool in a first direction while counter-rotating [a] second ratchet wrench in a second direction, opposite the first direction" or "(f) rotating the second ratchet wrench to rotate the tool in the first direction while counter-rotating the first ratchet wrench in the second direction," as required by independent claim 29.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of

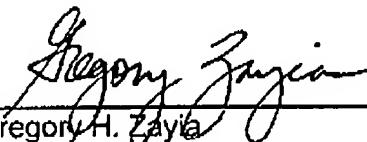
White, Blank, Huang or Wright, individually or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the Amendment and Remarks set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is in condition for allowance. Early notification to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the above Amendment and Remarks do not put the claims in condition to be allowed, and that a discussion would be helpful to advance prosecution, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned agent directly at (312)-321-4257.

Respectfully submitted,



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